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THE END OF THE NORRIS & ROWE CIRCUS
Unfortunate Events From The Opening Performance - Season 1910.
By C. E. Duble - CHS Historian

The Norris & Rowe Circus first took to the road in 1902. Its territory for five years being that along the Pacific Coast area, and the North West with headquarters either at Oakland or Venice, California. If I am not mistaken, C. I. Norris and H. W. Rowe, were the original owners. This circus met with success from the start and became popular in a few years. Important towns and cities were included in its route each year. I have no record of the number of cars required for transportation at the start, however, it was around the 20-car-class. For the Summer of 1907 and 1909 the circus went as far east as Fredericton, New Brunswick in Canada, playing that city both years. The Fall of 1909 found the circus in Southern Indiana, new territory for this show, and at that time was in financial difficulties. While showing at Princeton, Ind., in October of that year, a severe wind storm did quite a bit of damage to the show and some people were hurt. The tour ended in October and Evansville, Ind., was selected for Winter quarters. One or two of the elephants died during the winter.

The 1910 season opened in Evansville, April 15th and 16th. The city was well billed with attractive billboard and litho displays and good newspaper ads. Advertising Car No. 1 was ten days ahead and back with the show there were 22 cars all in a very much run-down condition and had never been painted from the season before. All flats were the old 60 ft. wooden type and sagged badly in the center when loaded with the heavy wagons. None of the wagons had seen paint from the year before either. There was a new side show tent with all new banners but all other canvas had been used the previous season. Show had quite a spread, with a 4-pole big top, double row of quarter poles, two rings and a center stage.

Bad luck started with the circus from the opening day. The weather was ideal, and parade went out on time while the streets were packed with crowds to see the advertised event. All parade wardrobe was from the year before, while all the ring and baggage stock was sleek, presenting a good appearance. There were a few elaborate hand-carved tableau and two band wagons that were still with the show from its prosperous days. During the afternoon show on the opening day, the wardrobe lady with the circus shot and killed a man for peeking into the ladies dressing room. From reports this fellow had been warned several times to stay away. The happening caused some excitement on the lot. The lady was arrested and placed in jail but I do not know how the case was settled. The next morning there was a full account of the shooting on the front page of the Evansville Courier, with a sketch of the tent, firing the shot; etc., drawn by Karl K. Knecht, cartoonist of the paper, and one of the first CFA Members.

The only ones of the staff that I recall were Walter Shannon, Manager. The Press Agent with the show was Herbert Maddy. Chris Zeitz was in charge of the elephants. Charlie Tinney was Bandmaster with a very high class band of 22 real circus musicians. The writer was one of the band.

The End of Norris & Rowe Circus (continued)

Tinney had been leader with Cole Bros., Circus (Martin Downs - Owner 1906-1909) and most of the musicians were from that show. Who the manager of the side show was I do not know, but among the attractions were Chief De Bro, Eskimo Midget, along with his wife. They were from Kendallville, Ind. (not Alaska) and the writer trouped with them with the Mighty Haag Circus later. The original Barnum's "What is it?" - Zip - was there with Cap' White in charge. This was a famous freak later with Ringling Bros. and still later with Ringling-Barnum Circus. There was a good colored band and minstrels and usual line-up of annex attractions. In the menagerie there was an airplane on exhibition, a novelty at that time.

The big top performance was high class with a well balanced array of various acts throughout the program. I think Stick Davenport was equestrian Director, a noted rider of that era. These acts I recall from memory.

The Flying Moore's - four people from Muncie, Ind., did a high class aerial return act also the DeComa's four people. Latter were with John Robinson 10 Big Shows later on. Performed to the strains of "Over the Waves" waltz. There were two Jap troupes who did a remarkable exhibition of foot juggling and balancing. Baker Troupe trick bicycle riders performed on the center stage. Later with Barnum & Bailey Circus. The Davenport's were the featured riders doing their wonderful riding with beautiful horses. Four people or more. Albion Sisters did trapeze, iron jaw and rings, likewise the Earl Sisters. Jack Albion was head clown. Stoddard and Wallace were also clowns and were with Sun Brothers Circus later. The old time hippodrome races closed the show and the old style after show concert was in vogue at that date. No wild west acts of any kind. The march played for the tournament or grand entry was "On Dress Parade", the same used by Gentry Bros. Shows also.

From Evansville the circus went to Henderson, Ky., which was Monday, April 18th, a chilly day, snow flakes fell during the parade, and both shows given to fair business. Princeton, Ky., for 19th and Paducah, Ky., for the 20th. Money had to be advanced for transportation. Both shows at latter town lost and weather cold and cloudy. Hopkinsville, Ky., 21st, another cloudy day. Parade and both shows given to fair crowds. Delay leaving - caused shows at Central City next day to be called off. More cash needed for moving train was the rumour. Owensboro, Ky., Saturday, 23rd, cold day and snow fell during afternoon show. Business poor. Louisville, Ky., was the Monday date, April 25th, and 26th. Parade was out on time, and both shows given to good business. Weather was ideal, Monday, but Tuesday poured rain all day. Show started loading at four o'clock in afternoon.

Seeing things were going from bad to worse, I, like many others, took the hint. I had written Harry Crigler, bandmaster Gentry Bros., Famous Shows, which had just started from Bloomington, Ind., that I could join at once. Day after Louisville, Norris & Rowe was at Shelbyville, Ky., a warm sunny day and parade went out and afternoon show given. For some reason no night show. I went to the cars after performance and a crowd of us were talking near the small wooden railroad station when a messenger boy from the station came along with a handfull of telegrams. Asked did he have anything for me, he looked and had a message. It was good news. A six word message "Join at New Albany, Ind., Thursday". signed Harry Crigler, Gentry Bros. Shows. I lost no time getting my belongings off the sleeper and was told by the railroad agent there was no train until next morning. (I had an easy jump to New Albany, less than fifty miles and arrived in time for breakfast in the cook tent. The white tents and everything else, new, were going up, the show had just started the season a few days before. Here I found all peace and contentment).

It was after midnight when the Norris & Rowe circus was loaded at Shelbyville. I could see it load from the station and I wondered how far it would go. The caboose at the tail end of the last flat with its red light at both sides was the last I ever saw of the ill-fated circus as it disappeared in the darkness headed East.

The End of the Norris & Rowe Circus (Concluded)

A week later the show was billed for Newport, Ky. (Opposite Cincinnati). When it arrived there it was attacked by one of the large lithographing companies. Notice appeared at the time in the Cincinnati Enquirer. No one received any salary. Show folks had no trouble being placed with other shows. There was plenty to choose from in 1910!

A few days later, Col. Ben. E. Wallace, of the Hagenbeck-Wallace Circus had the Norris & Rowe train with all equipment taken to Peru, Ind., and the property was offered at auction sale in June and another sale in August. Both sales I remember were advertised in the Billboard. I have one of the flashy letterheads of the circus with picture of H.S. Rowe as owner and manager. Also picture of the elaborate band wagon with mirrors, with the sleek team of eight dapple greys.

This was the end of the Greater Norris & Rowe Circus that had gained popularity in less than a decade especially in the North West, beyond the Rockies. The title was never used since.

The Editors are happy to pass the above article along to our readers, for we feel that CHS Duble has done a nice job on what is considered to be an unusual title, about which little is known. We also wish to express our thanks to CHS Harry Bowman for the loan of one of his Norris & Rowe negatives, so that a photo of this same circus can go to each of our members. Thanks to both Duble and Bowman for their kind co-operation.

In the same connection might just recall from memory the happy day when the Norris & Rowe Circus played Guelph, and I can well remember standing open-eyed along with all the other townsfolk looking at the Airplane which was indeed a novelty in those days. Although I was only a young chap then, I never forgot that sight. It took me several years to find out the title of the show that did have the 'plane but located an ad for the local date, and that settled the question. No doubt many of you have an outstanding eye-picture of your early shows - why not write and tell us about them and we will be pleased to make note of them in the Bandwagon.

W. W. Tyson - CHS 2.

Hagerstown, Md., Fans have a big night!

CHS P.R. Hemphill sends us the following clipping from his local paper: "Local members of the Circus Historical Society were entertained Thursday night as guests of Mr. & Mrs. Porter Richard Hemphill. All persons who collect circus material - photographs, magazines, programs, route books, articles, models, clippings, lithographs, posters, etc., or who would be interested in beginning such a hobby, are urged to contact Mr. Hemphill. Mr. Hemphill is active not only in the CHS and CFA but also holds membership in the Circus Model Builders and Owners Association, delivered an interesting talk on collecting "Circusiana" as a hobby and of the historical value of such a collection. "James L. Harshman, Maryland State Chairman of the CFA and also a member of the CHS also spoke briefly on the advantages of belonging to these two organizations. John Heckman CFA of Winesboro, exhibited and described his fine circus collection and it is expected that a number of those present will join the fast growing Circus Historical Society as a result of this recent meeting. The CHS in addition to aiding collectors of circus material, also publishes an interesting paper entitled THE BANDWAGON containing historical items of interest about the circus of days gone by as well as latest reviews and comments on present day shows and the activities of CHS Members".

Nice Going! and we hope to welcome into CHS some of those "prospects".

CIRCUS OBITUARY BY VAN MATRE, CHS. - Cont. from April

- LOUIS THILMAN died from a shot at Dunnville, Canada, May 25, 1920. Was assistant manager of HOWES GREAT LONDON SHOWS. (Cannot find out if the shooting took place on the lot or in the town. Would appreciate if any one has any information on this if they would write in to me)
- ALONZO MOORE Died in an auto accident outside of Denver, July 27, 1920, at the age of 55. Was a very famous clown.
- CHAS. WILSON Died at Chicago, Ill., Aug. 7, 1920, at the age of 48 of heart failure. Was general traffic manager for R.B.B.B.
- B. E. WALLACE Died in Rochester, Minn., April 8, 1921, at the age of 73. Just 8 years before this he sold the well known HAGENBECK-WALLACE CIRCUS.
- GEORGE KELLEY Died at Binghamton, N.Y., April 4, 1921, at the age of 80. Was one of the best leapers in his time.
- SAM STICKNEY Died at Chicago, April 11, 1921, at the age of 76 of heart failure. One time circus owner and clown and rider.
- JOHN ROBINSON Died at Miami, Fla., April 30, 1921, at the age of 78, of, bronchitis. One time circus owner, performer, and manager.
- CHAS. PHEENEY Died at Denver, Dec. 1, 1921, of small pox at the age of 40. Was a circus 24 hr. man.
- JOHNNIE WILSON Died in Cincinnati, Feb. 7, 1922, at the age of 78. Was one of the better horseback riders.
- DAVE COSTELLO Died at Henderson, N.C., Oct. 16, 1922, at the age of 60. Was one of the most famous circus riders.
- LOUIS COOKE Died at Newark, N.J., Mar. 18, 1923, at the age of 73. Very noted writer and circus general agent.
- GEORGE ARLINGTON Died at New York at the age of 73 of heart disease. For 30 years was general manager for Barnum & Bailey. Died on Dec. 1, 1923.
- GEORGE CONKLIN Died at Bridgeport, Feb. 25, 1924. Was head animal trainer for Barnum & Bailey.
- H. E. WHEELER Died in the Elks Home at Bedford, Va., June 19, 1924, at the age of 72 of apoplexy.
- TAYLOR COONS Died in the Elks Home at Bedford, Va., July 9, 1924. Was first general agent for GENTRY BROS. DOG & PONY SHOW.
- H. H. TAMMEN Died in Denver, July 19, 1924, at the age of 68. Was at one time part owner of SELLS FLOTO.
- SAM McCRACKIN Died in Chautauqua, N.Y., Jan. 1, 1925, at the age of 50. Was assistant manager of Barnum & Bailey.
- ORRIN HOLLIS Died in St. Vincent's Hospital Toledo, Ohio, Feb. 23, 1926, of heart and lung trouble at the age of 68. Was one of the famous bareback riders in his time.
- W. E. FRANKLIN Died at St. Petersburg, Fla., March 29, 1926, at the age of 73. In his day one of the most capable and best known agents.
- SIMON SCHAFFER Died in Omaha, July 19, 1926, at the age of 76 of heart trouble. One of the world's greatest trapeze performers.
- ANNIE OAKLEY Died in Greenville, Ohio, Nov. 3, 1926, at the age of 60. Correct name was Mrs. Frank Butler. Was champion rifle shot. Body was cremated.
- CHAS. RINGLING Died at Sarasota Dec. 3, 1926, at the age of 62 of cerebral hemorrhage.
- JOSEPH MILLER Died at Marland, Okla., Oct. 21, 1927. Was part owner of 101 Ranch Wild West Show.
- ROBERT STICKNEY Died in Miami, Fla., Feb. 24, 1928, at the age of 81. Was a famous circus rider, a great leaper and tumbler. Known as The Apollo Belvedere of the Arena.
- SIG SAUTELLE Died in Glenn Falls, N.Y., June 21, 1928, at the age of 80. Correct name was George Satterlee.
- GIL. ROBINSON Died in Cincinnati, Aug. 17, 1928, of stomach trouble at the age of 84. Was the son of John Robinson.
- GEORGE MILLER Died when his car skidded near Ponca City, Okla., Feb. 2, 1929, at the age of 48. One of the owners of the 101 Ranch Wild West Show.
- CHAS. GOLLIMAR Died in Baraboo, Wis., Feb. 17, 1929, of heart attack.
- CHAS. FOREPAUGH Died in West Berlin, N.J., July 17, 1929, at the age of 92.

CIRCUS OBITUARY - Continued

OTTO FLOTO	Died in Denver, Aug. 4, 1929, at the age of 66.
JERRY MUGIVAN	Died in Detroit, Jan. 22, 1930, following operation for hernia at the age of 57. In circus business for 30 years. One time President American Circus Corporation.
DAN DUCROW	Died in Pittsburgh, Aug. 11, 1930, at the age of 75. Last of the famous circus clowns of that name.
FRED WARRELL	Died on Floto show train on its way to Winston-Salem, N.C., Sept. 13, 1930, at the age of 59. Assistant manager of Sells Floto.
ANDREW DOWNIE	Died at Medina, N.Y., Dec. 17, 1930, at the age of 67. Correct name was McPhee.
LILLIAN LEITZEL	Died in Copenhagen, Denmark, Feb. 15, 1931, at the age of 37. Body cremated.
JOHNNY BAKER	Died at Denver, April 22, 1931, at the age of 62. Adopted son of Buffalo Bill.
JOHN SLATER	Died in Montreal, July 13, 1931, at the age of 61 of pneumonia. One of R.B.B.B. principal clowns.
AL. G. BARNES	Died on the Robeson Ranch which is near Indo, Cal., July 25, 1931, at the age of 68.
WM. P. HALL	Died at Lancaster, Mo., June 29, 1932 at the age of 68. Was a circus owner, exporter and buyer of horses.

THE GREATEST HARD LUCK CIRCUS OF ALL TIME

By Mark Anthony, CHS

Back in 1915, several Cedar Rapids, Iowa, business men, encouraged by Vic and Charles Hugo, thought it an easy thing to run a circus. So they launched THE HUGO BROS. MODERN UNITED SHOWS. A high class dog and pony show along the lines of Gentry Bros. Vic Hugo was manager; Len B. Williams, G.A.; James Beatty, Side Show; and Ray Thompson, Eques. Dir.

Show opened the 1915 season on May 10-11 in Cedar Rapids, under a '120' round top with 3-40's and used three rings. A fine parade with Shetland ponies, three bandwagons, 4 bulls, and a steam calliope was presented. The show travelled on 15 sixty-foot cars.

Biz at the start was very good considering this being a war year. Later in July rain hurt the show plenty. Its route was West into Nebraska, then East into Minnesota, Illinois, and Iowa down into Missouri.

A lot happened in Illinois. The hoof and mouth disease broke out among the livestock. On August 14, Vic Hugo was replaced by H.S. Rowe, for many years associated with the Norris & Rowe show. Len B. Williams took the show into Chicago for two weeks starting August 27. During the circus date a terrific fight took place on a show lot located at Van Buren and California Ave. Much damage resulted from this "Hey, Rube".

After Chicago a few dates were played and then the show returned to Cedar Rapids. That fall the show was reorganized by L.J. Stark, a jeweler of this city, who was one of the main backers. On Dec. 8, Vic Hugo vanished leaving affairs in very much a tangle. Elmer Jones bought the unused Hugo paper and had a two-car show touring the mid and northwest.

In 1916, the show came back in glorious form with the title of COOP & LENT UNITED MONSTER SHOWS. W.L. Hanwright was Mgr.; Frank C. Cooper, G.A.; W.C. Cox, Adjuster; Jack Cousins, Eques. Dir.; Art Eldrige, Lot Supt.; and Cal Tower's Side Show with J.S. Rigger's Minstrel and Band, Viola Larkin and her seven big serpents, Barney Crutch, tattooed marvel, Grace Allen, Thousand Eyed girl, and Minnie Carl, fat girl.

Frank C. Cooper, an old-time showman, put the show together using the cars, wagons, seats, etc. formerly used by Hugo Bros. The show was named after William C. Coup and Lewis B. Lent, both old showmen of the past. Through some error of the printers the spelling of Coup was changed to Coop. Mart E. Godwin painted the show wagons and a fine parade was put out. Twenty cars (eight flats, five sleepers, five stocks, pie car, and advance) were used. The bulls and animals were leased from the Hall Farm of Lancaster, Mo. and

THE GREATEST HARD LUCK CIRCUS OF ALL TIME - Contd

Horne of Kansas City. Much of the baggage stock was hired. This leased property caused the show to barely break even.

Big top was the same size and menagerie was a 70' round top with 3-30. Animals included 60 baggage horses, 27 ring horses, 5 bulls, and 3 camels. No outstanding feature was carried, but a good performance with the Davenports, riders, Waltons and Rodregelez Troupes, acrobats, and Zendas, trapeze, adding color.

The early routing was good, although on the opening date in Cedar Rapids, a chilly rain hurt biz. Route thru Indiana, Ohio, Penn., and southern New York was very good and the show made money. The plan had been a tour thru New England, but during July a bad infantile paralysis epidemic broke out and the circus went into Canada. Business was off on the return swing and the show closed at Oak Park, Ill.

The circus was moved from Cedar Rapids to Dixon, Ill., and the Dixon Amusement Co. was organized. L.J. Stark and a man named Lawrence were main backers. Jess Adkins was the new manager. On April 25, the show opened in Dixon on a cold and rainy day. Afternoon biz. was off, but good night crowds. It again moved on 20 cars with 80 horses, 10 cages of animals, 5 bulls, and 2 camels.

PROGRAM: 1. Grand Entry. 2. Aerial Ladders - Humpreys & Wolfgramps. 3. Equestriennes - Misses Guice and Davenport; 4. Ponies - Maude Dillion and Ethel Schafer. Pete Taylor's Bears; 5. Statue Horses - Etta Meyers and Mrs. Greer, Principals - Stick Davenport and Walter Guice. 6. Traps-Haydens and Kafkas, Pete Taylor's Tigers. 7. Comic Acro.-Kent Bros., Harts, and Kafka. 8. High School Horses - Etta Meyers, Mrs. Greer, Mr. St. John, and Miss Schafer. 9. Clowns. 10. Pete Taylor's Lions. 11. Wire Acts - Wolfgramps, Alex Lowande, and Haydens. 12. Clown Barber Shop and Jargo. 13. Riding troupes - Davenports and Guices. 14. Iron-Jaw - Hart Sisters and Kafkas. 15. Alex Lowande's Comic Mule.

Several incidents happened. On opening day a team hauling a den broke and ran, injuring several by-standers. A few days later at Warsaw, Ind., Archie Paul fell from his wagon and was killed instantly under the wheels. On May 12, at Kenton, O., a stock car containing 5 bulls and 2 camels caught fire when a gasoline lantern carried by a colored elephantman exploded. The car and straw was soon a mass of flames. Two of the bulls were suffocated and a third so badly burned it had to be destroyed. Two showmen were overcome by the smoke.

This was a bad blow as the show had to pay Hall \$8,000. for the bulls. Two more were leased. The bodies were sold as fertilizer for \$11. After a long struggle the show closed at Connellesville, Pa., on July 11, and sold to L.S. Horne, the Kansas City animal dealer. He, in turn, sold most of the equipment to the H.W. Campbell Carnival. The season of 1917 was so bad that one backer committed suicide.

The circus was reorganized after the 1917 closing by Mr. Horne. He with the aid of R.M. Harvey equipped the show with motor trucks, many of which were covered with fancy scroll work. The circus opened at Cottage Ave. and 115th St. in Hensington, Ill., on May 25 to large crowds. The circus was billed by an advance crew which also used motor trucks. An unusual thing was that the show carried two kid shows - Jack Rhode's Side Show and C. Sidmeyer's Big Ten-In-One. Two rings and a stage in the center made an imposing layout for the new show. Weather was perfect.

The show got off to a right start but when they crossed the Ohio River from Kentucky they ran into bad roads. Due to this and the fact that the huge trailers were too much for the truck engines, the show was from two to three days behind its billing. The show closed at Dover, O., on August 18 after another hectic season.

Now don't start believing Coop & Lent was the first to use trucks. It wasn't. Many of the wagon tricks used trucks along with horses. Coop & Lent was the first to travel entirely by truck.

Coop & Lent passed into history after being sold to Bernie Wallace, and so another show disappears from the ranks only to be remembered as the Greatest Hard Luck Circus Of All Time.

I M P O R T A N T A N N O U N C E M E N T

Since the last BANDWAGON was published -- I have to announce the resignation of CHS DON SMITH - from the Post of Director of Publicity for CHS.

One of the duties of this appointed office is the carrying on of the CHS column in the Billboard, and realizing that so many of our members count on this as a source of information between the issues of our own publication -- I felt that a new appointment would have to be made at once.

Therefore, in this connection, I am pleased to advise that - in force until the end of the present term of my office e.g. December 31st, 1945 - I have appointed: --

M R S. B E T T E L E O N A R D

440 North Dodge Street, Wichita, 12, Kansas, U.S.A.

to carry on in this important capacity for the Society.

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I have every confidence that Mrs. Leonard's contact with performers; her extensive correspondence with so many of our members; the fact that she, herself, is an ex-trouper, and also that so many items written by her have previously been published by the Billboard -- will make for an acceptable appointment, and that the office will be carried on to the interest of CHS members in general.

I wish at this time to ask each and every one of you to send all material you can to Mrs. Leonard to the above address, so that she will be enabled to make an interesting and regular column for publication. Show your appreciation of her co-operation by sending her notes regularly!

Items about circus visits to your community, your own visits on the lots, with performers, Division meeting notes, etc., will always be useful for publication and I am sure that the results will be both pleasing and interesting to all of you.

Personally - I wish to thank Mrs. Leonard on behalf of the CHS for accepting this appointment and thus again demonstrating the co-operation shown by our members to be WITH IT AND FOR IT!

(Signed) Walter W. Tyson.

President, CHS.

Dated June 15th, 1945.

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As we complete this issue of the Bandwagon - word has just reached us through Edwin Wendler, CHS - that Division 8 is in the process of organizing. The request has been made that their Division be named "COLUMBIA" Bandwagon. We hope to have full particulars and list of officers for publication in the next issue. This will make the 6th Division to be organized!

NOTES FROM THE SECRETARY'S MAILBAGSpecial note to CHS members who are model builders:-

The Model Railroader, a magazine devoted entirely to model railroading, is compiling, in response to many requests, an article on model circus trains, complete with photographs, sketches, etc., and invites correspondence with any who have model circus trains, or cars. Our members are urged to send in any photos, or other material which may be of use in making up such an article. Address all letters to Frank Taylor, Editor, The Model Railroader, 1027 North Seventh St., Milwaukee 3, Wis. This article will be the means of bringing the model circus hobby before the eyes of the large number of readers of this nationally known magazine".

CHS Vice-Pres. Burt Wilson has brought to our attention the fact that there is obtainable, at any commercial stationery store in the U.S., a binder which can be used to perfection to hold all CHS publications. This binder is called the "Accopress Binder - No. BG 3007V". They are inexpensive, costing around 40¢ each, and in addition to being just exactly the right size, a very simple binder to manipulate.

CHS Claude Elder, writes -- "I made opening of all three in Calif., Arthur at Oxnard, Cronin in L.A., and Russell in Pan-Am. Bldg.". He advises that Arthur will be in Missoula, Mont., in June.

C.H.White, oldtime circus man, member of CHS, is just completing a very extended trip which took him to Chicago to see the Barnes Show, at which time he had a very nice visit with Terrell Jacobs, Honorary Member of CHS; to Logansport, Ind., for a short visit with CHS Chalmer Condon; to Kokomo, Ind., for a visit with Geo. W. G. Piercy CHS; then to Indianapolis for the Cole Circus. Reports a lot of cold and rainy weather. Hopes to visit Art Stensvad in North Platte, Neb., and Bill Green CHS, Washington, Kans. on the return to his home in Fredonia, Kans.

Mr. Stanley Bult, Librarian of the British CFA is preparing a book on "Clowns" in which he is inviting any and every clown to be included. The work is to be very comprehensive and will include a diagram of the individual makeup in colour. Mr. Bult is preparing a questionnaire to send to any artists that would like to be included. When the Editors of the Bandwagon receive this questionnaire and other information further note of same will be made in the Bandwagon.

Garden Bros. Circus at present showing indoors in Ontario, Canada, have as some of their feature acts Prof. George Keller and mixed group of wild animals, Hill's elephants, Flying Melzoras and the usual number of aerial, acrobatic and novelty acts, including Friscoes' seals.

We are sorry to hear that CHS Jim Chloupek has not been feeling his good self of late, but happy to know that he has come home now and is convalescing and hope that before long he will be able to catch at least one of the shows out that way.

CHS Burns Kattenberg "Contortionist specialist" reports that he recently visited with George Higgins, Sky Man and Contortionist and spent the entire afternoon with he and his wife. Among other souvenirs which Burns received for his collection were an autographed photo from Higgins, and the promise of a Frog Suit for his fast growing collection.

We have received a letter from CHS Harry Bowman stating that he and CHS Ray Frisel were attending the Clyde Beatty Circus at the time of the blowdown. Reports that the emergency was well handled. Bowman received a slight injury but says he is now on the road to recovery. As you know the blowdown took place at Greensburg, Pa.

NOTES FROM THE SECRETARY'S MAILBAG (Continued)

The following Michigan members of CHS visited Barnes Bros. Circus in Detroit during May; Del Brewer, Bob Green, Chuck LeRoy, Walter Pietschmann, and Don Smith. Headquarters were in Terrell Jacobs dressing room, and many photos were taken with his new tiger cubs. Don Smith assisted with loading, at close of show, and photographed all wagons in color film for Terrell at the "runs". Pietschmann obtained views of Spec for the Chicago producers during last performance.

CHS Cliff F. Cowen wonders how many circus posters and bills of years ago are still to be seen posted in sheltered spots today. He reports seeing Hagenbeck-Wallace billing in good shape for season 1937 or 38 around his home town of Oshkosh, Wis.

In the April number of the Bandwagon, information was requested as to the place in 1913 where the Sanger Greater European Shows played on a Saturday, changing title over the week-end, and coming out on Monday as the Famous Robinson Shows. From CHS James Goslin, comes the following information -- "Quoting Earl Chapman May, in his book 'The Circus From Rome to Ringling' page 320, paragraph one -- Quote - 'On that historic date his boss, Mr. Mugivan, purchased from Dan Robinson the Famous Robinson Show title; On the night of Saturday, Oct. 11th, 1913, Sangers Greater European Show rolled into the railroad yards at Americus, Ga., Every member of the circus company became a painter instantly; one day later the circus left town as the Famous Robinson. The new title in bright letters over railroad cars, cages, tab-leaux, and baggage wagons. The retitled season ended gloriously' End quote".

The photo which went to all CHS members with the April number of the Bandwagon was one of the band of the Christy Circus, season 1919, and the young boy who has a drum strapped across his chest is none other than Harry James, now a leading orchestra figure. CHS Ray Choisser, retired calliope player, of Pinckneyville, Ill., had a nice account of a few of the high spots of his career in the Pinckneyville Democrat, newspaper of his home town, in which he reminisced on his days with the circus, with especial reference to the year 1926 when he was with Lee Bros. circus, and that year the band was under the leadership of Harry James' father, with young James also in the band on the snare drums.

Changes of Address - Permanent:

- No.....60 Mrs. Dorothy E. Rumbaugh, % Rumbaugh-MacLain, Everett, Wash.
New address - 416 No. Grand Ave., Everett, Wash.
- No.....154 Mr. LeRoy Sweetland, Gen. Del., Channalview, Texas.
New Address - 1003A Virginia, Kansas City, Mo.
- No.....188 Mr. Cliff Cowen, 602 - 17th St., Oshkosh, Wis.,
New Address - 263 Grove St., Oshkosh, Wisc.
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Changes of Address - temporary - good till further notice:

- No.....65 Mr. Paul A. Ruddell, 4909 F. Street, Capitol Heights, Maryland.
Temp. Address - Pvt. Paul A. Ruddell, 991300, USMC, Co. A.,
65th Repl. Draft, Camp Pendleton, Oceanside, Calif.
-

Please add these new members to your Membership list:

- No.....203 Mr. John Roberts, 24 Edgerton Street, Brantford, Ont., Canada.
GC
- No.....204 Mr. Herman J. Linden, 596 Benton St., Aurora, Ill.
Ph; Pr.
- No.....205 Mr. John L. Boulette, 23 Sycamore St., Millbury, Mass.
GC; Bks; Ph; R; AM.
- No.....206 Mr. Richard E. Conover, 10 Chippendale Pl., Dayton 10, Ohio.
Bks; Ph; M.
- No.....207 Mr. A.C. McLachlan, The New Club, Cheltenham, Gloucestershire,
GC England.
- No.....208 Mr. Herbert J. Antes, 434A North 14th St., East St., Louis, Ill.
PH; R; Sp. in individual acts.

NEW MEMBERS - (Continued)

- No....209 Mrs. Esther Frietsch, 705 Kettelle St., Peoria 6, Ill.,
GC; PH; Movies: M.
No....210 Mr. Joseph Fleming, Trenton, Nebraska.
GC; Ph; Pr.

Member No. 207, Mr. A.C. McLachlan, of Cheltenham, England, is one of the original founders of the CFA of Great Britain, and we are very happy to welcome him as a member of the CHS.

We are pleased to report that John Van Matre, Driver of Div. 3 "Five Graces Bandwagon" was the first to send in a blanket order for the new Membership Certificates, for a number of members in that Division.

CHS Charles B. Kistle reports that he has taken in the following circuses this season - Clyde Beatty Circus in Bethlehem, Pa., "Renfro Valley Folks" (a tent opera put out by Lai - and Ketrow. Bill Ketrow for he had Kay Bros. Circus) at Quakertown, Pa., Saw the "Big One" at the Garden in New York. "Bob Dickman's Circus" at Boyertown and "Dix Bros. Circus" at Coopersburg. A nice record!

CHS Bill Green, Jr., goes one better by ordering two Membership Certificates - one for the home and the other for his circus print shop!

THE AUCTION BLOCK!

Send in your bids on the following lots to the Secretary, John B. Lyon, 210 Waterloo Ave., Guelph, Ontario, Canada. Do not send any cash with your bids. You will be advised if this is necessary if you are the successful bidder. All bids to be in Secretary's hands not later than June 30th.

Lot 1: Eight photos - $3\frac{1}{2} \times 5\frac{1}{2}$ of Terrell & Dolly Jacobs, animal and elephant acts. Frank Wirth Circus - Allentown, Pa., season 1944. Sent in by Edmond Holt, CHS.

Lot 2: One 8 x 10 photograph of the reconditioned Two Hemispheres Bandwagon. With Merle Evans' band atop. A fine closeup of this old wagon. Donated by Col. B. J. Palmer, Honorary Member CHS.

Lot 3: Eight 4 x 6 photos taken at FAIR FOR BRITAIN, Toronto, Canada, season 1943. Showing entrance, birds' eye views of grounds; Close-up of two Conklin Midway fronts; Elephants with Will Hill Society Circus. Donated by Walter W. Tyson, CHS.

Lot 4: Seven 4 x 6 photos of the old original Ben E. Wallace Quarters as they are today. Full description written on back of each. Including views of house, barns, corral, and photo of Geo. Valentino of the original "Flying Valentinos" as he is today. These are a very fine historical set of photos. Donated by Chalmer Condon CHS.

Enclosures

Through C.H. White (Dad), retired Burlington Route Locomotive Engineer, and much travelled member of CHS we have received sufficient Burlington Route "stickers" with a nice picture of Buffalo Bill on same, for distribution to each member. These will add a colorful corner to your Buffalo Bill Scrap book. Many thanks.

CHS Don Howland has kindly sent to us a large packet of tickets for the Clyde Beatty Circus, when same played Allentown, Pa., under auspices of the American Legion. Each member will find enclosed one adult and one child's ticket.

It is only through the co-operation and kindness of many of our members that these enclosures, besides the regular photo with each issue of the Bandwagon, are sent out during the year.

THANK YOU! MEMBERS

The response to the announcement regarding the New Membership Certificates has been very gratifying - and we have already received replies from several of those who sent in at the first for them, expressing satisfaction on having received the certificate. We know that several of the Divisions intend to order at one time through their Driver - and so we expect to have a busy time of it getting the certificates in the mail.

It was through the kindness of Col. B.J. Palmer - Honorary Member of CHS that we were able to secure the photo of the Two Hemispheres Bandwagon, from which the cut was made for the central illustration on the Certificates. From Col. Palmer your President has received a most interesting letter - but as we feel the remarks are intended for the entire Membership - we are happy to reproduce it below:-

Davenport, Iowa, May 17th, 1945.

Dear Mr. Tyson:-

It behooves each Member of CHS to give whatever is at his command, and, to do whatever is within his possibilities, to help the CHS take its rightful place in helping to re-establish the Circus in the minds of the American Public. Today, The Big Show is under a cloud as a result of the fire. Other circuses are in the shadow of that same cloud. We must not let the Circus of OUR youths wither or die during this crisis. To that end I have done a little to help. You have done much more. All our littles will make one big which will help. One of the hardest working persons who is doing his best is Beverly Kelley. Too much credit cannot be given him.

The Membership Certificate is at hand and it is a masterpiece of the printer's art. It pleases me VERY much to note that you have used THE TWO HEMISPHERES BANDWAGON as the symbol of the circus on these certificates.

Have had architects draw plans for a fire-proof house for this Old Troupers of mine. Am having made now a big neon sign to go on top. When finished every Circus Fan would be proud of the saving of this Old Timer. I extend an invitation to every circus Fan, every Member of CHS and all Show Folks of America to drop in and see their Old Friend.

Thank you again for your thoughtfulness.

Sincerely,

(Signed) Colonel B.J. Palmer.

We are certain that this letter will be an incentive for us to go ahead and do more things in the future. And again -- after reading the above letter -- if you have not already made arrangements for YOUR Certificate -- DO SO AT ONCE!

August 12th, 1907 - Barnum & Bailey day and dated Buffalo Bill Wild West Show at Rockford, Ill.

A. G. Ringling was appointed General Agent for the Forepaugh-Sells Shows for season of 1907.

1906 - John Robinson Circus opened its 84th season at Lancaster, Ohio, April 28th, 1906.

John Robinson Circus gave three performances at Kenosha, Wisc., August 21st, 1906 - to 27,440.

Gollmar Bros., Circus, closed at Charleston, Mo., October 31st, 1906.

Great Wallace Shows closed at Greenfield, Tenn., November 5th, 1906.

Barnum & Bailey Circus closed at Richmond, Virginia - November 17th, 1906.

Ringling Bros. Circus closed at Jonesboro, Ark., November 19th, 1906.

Al. G. Barnes Circus is in quarters, Omaha, Nebr., (Nov. 17th, 1906).

Notes from F. A. Norton, CHS.

CIRCUS NEWSLETTER

"America's Only Privately Circulated Circus Paper"

CIRCUS NEWS brought to you each week in a down-to-earth, informal way. Not just a lot of generalities to provide bulk, but all the "meaty" facts! Presented in a quick, snappy, condensed style, with all the "inside dope" on circuses. Rushed to you each week in a private, confidential envelope. You will prize your bulletins many times their original value!

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<p>C.SPENCER CHAMBERS 725 Vine Street Syracuse 6, N.Y.</p> <p>Buys, sells and exchanges Circus, Minstrel and Magic Programs, playbills, lithographs etc., Lists issued frequently.</p>	<p>FOR SALE</p> <p>Four sets Van Matre Wheels, too small for my purpose. Cost \$4.00, Yours for \$2.50</p> <p>Richard C. Ellsworth Canton, -- New York</p>
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BUD E. ANDERSON 3 RING CIRCUSPROGRAM - 1945

	MUSICAL INTERLUDE		HINCHLEY'S CIRCUS BAND
	Ring No. 1	Ring No. 2	Ring No. 3
1		Grand Entry	
2		Pony Drill	
3	Tight Wire		Tight Wire
4		Juggling	
5	Ladders	Ladders	Ladders
6		Clowns	
7	Monkey		Dog
8		Cloud Swing	
9		CONCERT ANNOUNCEMENT	
10		Menage	
11	Toppling Table		Toppling Table
12	Neck Loop Act		Bar Traps
13		CLOWN-HONEY BEE ACT	
14		Liberty Horses	
15		High Perch Act	
16		CONCERT ANNOUNCEMENT	
17	Acrobats		Juggling
18	Contortionists		Contortionists
19		Elephant	

Sent in by Arthur Stensvad, CHS

MEMBERSHIP DUES: We would just like to again remind all those whose cards are marked to expire May 1st, 1945 - are required to send their annual \$2.00 dues to the Treasurer, Walter J. Pietschmann, 7337 Third St., Detroit 2, Mich., Apt. 202.

There are a very few who should give this immediate attention - as steps will be taken shortly to have the names of those removed from the mailing list, who are too far in arrears.